Merger of CIFNET with other Institutions

567. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to merge CIFNET with other institutions involved in deep sea fisheries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that CIFNET has not been able to increase its capacities in the last five years;

(d) the names of bodies or institutions with which CIFNET could be merged suitably;

(e) whether Government propose to conduct any study on the activities of CIFNET; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir CIFNET has increased its capacity as and when required in the fishery sector.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The Institute has expended its capacity by starting new short-term courses and four-year degree course on Fishing and Nautical Science.

Use of Diclofenac

568. SHRIMATIVANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formally recommended the State to reduce the use of diclofenac, something it had been resisting till a linkage with vulture deaths was clear and an alternative was available;

(b) if so, whether the States have also been asked to stop purchasing this veterinary drug for Government dispensaries;